

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Vol. 4, No. 37

Space symposium looks at future of space operations, tourism

▲ Air Force, KSC, FSA sponsor annual space symposium:

The Eighth Annual Cape Canaveral Spaceport Symposium, sponsored by the Air Force 45th Space Wing, NASA Kennedy Space Center, and the Florida Space Authority, is being held June 15-16 at the Radisson Resort in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

The Symposium will feature presentations from KSC Director Jim Kennedy; Brig. Gen. J. Gregory Pavlovich, commander of the 45th Space Wing and director, Eastern Range; and Winston Scott, executive director of the Florida Space Authority.

Patricia Grace Smith, associate administrator for commercial space transportation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), is the keynote speaker and will address the continuing role of the FAA in all facets of future airspace and spacelift operations.

Other speakers include key government and industry executives serving on the following panels: Global Aerospace Operations, Future Military Space Operations, Future Space Transportation, Exploration Frontiers and Space Recreation and Tourism. Topics of the symposium include emerging space markets, spaceport and range technologies, utilization of military space assets and space policy initiatives.



For further information and to register for the event, visit

<http://www.capecanaveral.spaceport.org>.

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Vehicle power-up work continues on **Discovery** with OMS pod continuity checks and Verification testing. Nitrogen tank leak checks and cryogenic heater control assembly checkouts are underway.

Wing leading-edge Reinforced Carbon-Carbon panel work continues with spar-fitting installation, plus panel build-up and installation. The left-hand OMS pod has been installed, along with all four Rudder Speed Brake actuators and panels, and the nose cap.

◆ **Bird's Eye View** — The Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge is home to many ospreys, and a mating pair have nested outside the NASA News Center (Press Site), affording a continuing closeup of their activity.



Gallery at

Three fledglings are now testing their wings, getting ready to leave the nest (left). See more osprey photos on the KSC Multimedia

Discovery undergoing power-up, testing for Return to Flight

<http://mediaarchive.ksc.nasa.gov/index.cfm> by clicking on the same photo.

Two interesting osprey facts from Alan Poole's "Ospreys: A Natural and Unnatural History": Ospreys generally pair for life, but if mating is unsuccessful, will sometimes "divorce"; and osprey parents will hold back food in order to encourage fledglings to leave the nest.

◆ **NASA Science** — For thousands of years, humans have been herding: goats... sheep... cattle. It's not always easy, and modern ranchers usually have help, such as a Border Collie to keep their beasts together. But what do you do if you want to herd, say, microbes? Read the full story at http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2004/14may_microbetrap.htm

◆ **Correction** — The venue for the seminar "Preparing Others To Create Their Vision" will be the **O&C Mission Briefing Room** from 9 to 11 a.m. June 2. This opportunity is available to **all NASA KSC civil service employees and contractors**.

◆ **Did You Know?** A cancer support group meets every Thursday at 11 a.m. in the OHF Library, Building M6-495. For information, e-mail Patricia.Bell-1@ksc.nasa.gov.